

**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 15**

(By Delegate Kump)

[Introduced January 13, 2011; referred to the  
Committee on Constitutional Revision then the  
Judiciary.]

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of West  
Virginia, amending section three, article VI thereof, relating  
to imposing term limits for senators and delegates; numbering  
and designating such proposed amendment; and providing a  
summarized statement of the purpose of such proposed  
amendment.

*Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia, two thirds of  
the members elected to each house agreeing thereto:*

That the question of ratification or rejection of an amendment  
to the Constitution of the State of West Virginia be submitted to  
the voters of the state at the next general election to be held in  
the year 2012, which proposed amendment is that section three,  
article VI thereof, be amended to read as follows:

**ARTICLE VI. THE LEGISLATURE.**

**§3. Senators and delegates -- Terms of office.**

1        Senators shall be elected for the term of four years, and  
2 delegates for the term of two years. The senators first elected,  
3 shall divide themselves into two classes, one senator from every  
4 district being assigned to each class; and of these classes, the  
5 first to be designated by lot in such manner as the Senate may  
6 determine, shall hold their seats for two years and the second for  
7 four years, so that after the first election, one half of the  
8 senators shall be elected biennially.

9        A person who has been elected or who has served as a senator  
10 during all or any part of three consecutive terms shall be  
11 ineligible for the office of senator during any part of the term  
12 immediately following the third of the three consecutive terms. No  
13 person who has served three or more consecutive terms as a senator  
14 upon the ratification of this section in 2012 shall be eligible to  
15 serve another consecutive term beginning in 2013.

16        A person who has been elected or who has served as a delegate  
17 during all or any part of six consecutive terms shall be ineligible  
18 for the office of delegate during any part of the term immediately  
19 following the sixth of the six consecutive terms. No person who has  
20 served six or more consecutive terms as a delegate upon the  
21 ratification of this section in 2012 shall be eligible to serve  
22 another consecutive term beginning in 2013.

23        *Resolved further,* That in accordance with the provisions of  
24 article eleven, chapter three of the Code of West Virginia, 1931,

1 as amended, such proposed amendment is hereby numbered "Amendment  
2 No. 1" and designated as the "Legislator Term Amendment" and the  
3 purpose of the proposed amendment is summarized as follows: "The  
4 purpose of this amendment is to prohibit state senators to serve  
5 more than three consecutive terms and to prohibit state delegates  
6 to serve more than six consecutive terms."

NOTE: The purpose of this resolution is to create term limits for state senators and state delegates. The resolution prohibits persons from serving more than three consecutive terms as a state senator and prohibits persons from serving more than six consecutive terms as a state delegate.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.